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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sedgwick County Health Department to Hold Drive-Thru Event for Flu Shots

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – The Sedgwick County Health Department will administer Influenza (Flu) Shots at a special "Drive-thru" event on Saturday, October 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The clinic will be held in the parking lot directly south of the main Health Department, 1900 E. 9th Street (corner of I-135 and 9th Street).

Costs are as follows: Children ages 6 months thru 8 years (\$10.00) and all others (\$15.00). We will also offer the Pneumonia shot (\$25.00). Before shots can be administered, the client must present an immunization consent form and HIPAA Privacy form, both signed by parent or guardian. These forms will be available at the Health Department the day of the event and can be downloaded from our website at www.sedgwickcounty.org.

Drive-thru service accepts cash, check, and current Medicare, Medicaid and HealthWave cards. Shots are provided inside the Health Department building for individuals with MasterCard or Visa.

"We encourage the citizens of Sedgwick County to take advantage of this service," said Sedgwick County Commission Chairman Tim Norton. "This is one way the Sedgwick County Health Department is working to help citizens remain healthy."

Influenza is a highly infectious disease of the lungs that can lead to pneumonia. Typical symptoms include fever, body aches, tiredness, cough and often a sore throat and runny nose. A person who receives the vaccine may contract the flu but will experience a milder case than someone who did not get the vaccine.

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An annual flu shot is **recommended** for: People 50 years of age and older; residents of long-term care facilities; people who have chronic health problems, such as heart, kidney or lung disease, diabetes, asthma and anemia; people with a weakened immune system due to HIV/AIDS, long-term steroid treatment or cancer treatment; people 6 months to 18 years of age on long-term aspirin treatment; pregnant women who will be past the first trimester during flu season; and health care workers, family members and anyone else coming in close contact with people at risk of serious influenza

An annual flu shot is **encouraged** for: Healthy children 6-23 months of age; household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of infants 0 to 23 months of age; people who provide essential community services; people at high risk for flu complications who travel to the southern hemisphere; people living in dormitories or under other crowded conditions; and anyone else who wants to reduce his or her chance of contracting influenza.

Talk to your doctor before you receive the flu shot. The best time to receive your flu shot is in October and November but getting vaccinated in December can still offer you protection against the flu.

For information, please call the Health Department at 660-7300 or visit our website: www.sedgwickcounty.org.

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